

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. Canceled
2. (Currently amended) A method for monitoring the functions and increasing the operational reliability of a complex safety-relevant vehicle control system, and for detecting and evaluating system errors, the method comprising the steps of:
  - detecting a system error and evaluation as a group error,
  - bringing about a system degradation corresponding to the group error by restricting system functions,
  - localizing the system error and ~~[[the]]~~ an error source by at least one of the functions out of the group consisting of tests, logical combining of the test results and plausibility considerations, and
  - gradually canceling the restrictions of the system functions and enhancing the system availability in dependence on the result of the ~~individual steps~~ step for localizing the system error and the error source.

3. (Currently amended) A safety-relevant control system, comprising ~~means for monitoring its functions and increasing their operational reliability and for detecting and evaluating system errors,~~

~~the means being capable of performing the steps of:~~

[[~~-~~]] detecting means for detecting a system error and evaluation as a group error[[~~,~~]];

[[~~-~~]] first localization means for bringing about a system degradation corresponding to the group error by restricting system functions[[~~,~~]];

[[~~-~~]] second localization means for localizing the system error and [[the]] an error source by at least one of the functions out of the group consisting of tests, logical combining of the test results and plausibility considerations[[~~,~~]]; and

[[~~-~~]] enhancing means for gradually canceling the restrictions of the system functions and enhancing the system availability in dependence on the ~~result of the individual steps for localizing the~~ system error and the error source.